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WATER TRANSPORT FACILITIES INCREASE; HIGHWAY REPAIR CONTINUES

IMPROVED TRANSPORTATION LOWERS PRICES -- Wen-hui Pao, 18 Jan 50

Ch'ung-ch'ing, 16 January (NCNA) -- After a suspension of 9 months, steamer transportation on the upper reaches of the Ch'ang Chiang (Yangtze River) is rapidly increasing in volume. During December, the tonnage of imports and exports handled at Ch'ung-ch'ing amounted to 79,000 tons and was carried by 311

Although water in the sections of the Ch'ang Chiang between I-pin--Lo-shan and I-pin--P'ing-shan is now too low for steamers, other traffic on 28 water routes in Szechwan is very active, as is also highway traffic.

Repairs are still in progress on the Szechwan-Yunnan, Szechwan-Shensi, and Szechwan-Sikang motor roads. The Kweichov portion of the Kweichov-Hunan motor road is in full use, while repairs on the Kweichow-Kwangsi and Kweichow-Yunnan highways are being rushed. Since rolling stock is insufficient to handle all the traffic, the government is pushing work in the motor-truck repair shops.

Postal and telecommunication services with other parts of the country are in good operation.

With the Yueh-Han railroad in operation, the flow of north-south traffic during the first 10 days of January was 44.6 percent greater than during the middle 10 days of December. Grain, tung oil, and lumber comprise the bulk of the goods moving southward; salt, gasoline, and kerosene, that moving northward. One consequence of improved transportation is that in Kuang-chou, since the end of December 1949, the price of rice has decreased by about 20 percent, that of No 32 cotton yarn has been lowered by 10 percent, and that of white cloth by 11 percent.

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HONG KONG-MATIONALIST CHINA SHIPPING CONTINUES -- Wen-hui Pao, 18 Jan 50

Despite the British recognitio. of Communist China, shipping service from Hong Kong to places in Nationalist China, such as Taiwan and Hainan, is still continued. An average of one ship every week leaves Hong Kong for Hai-k'ou; while ships flying the Nationalist flag, as well as several British ships belonging to Butterfield and Swire, and the Jardine Matheson Company, maintain, as before their regular service to Taiwan.

KWANGTUNG TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS APPROACH NORMAL -- Wen-hui Pao, 17 Jan 50

Kuang-chou, 16 January -- Nearly all transportation systems in Kwangtung Province are now operating under normal conditions. Already 678 river boats are sailing on the Tung Chiang, Hsi Chiang, and Pei Chiang, and other inland waterways around Kuang-chou. Of these, 217 are on scheduled runs. Records show that ir the month of December 1949, a total of more than 5,000 ships, carrying about 300,000 tons of cargo, came into Kuang-chou.

More than 4,000 kilometers of highways, out of the total of 15,000 kilometers in Kwangtung, are now open to vehicular traffic, in comparison with only 2,500 kilometers immediately after liberation.

YUEH-HAN RR TO BE IMPROVED -- Wen-hui Pao, '7 Jan 50

Kuang-chou, 16 January -- At the conference of the representatives of the railroad workers of the Yueh-Han line which adjourned today, the 1950 plans for the Yueh-Han Railroad were outlined by Lei T'ieh-ming, head of the Kuang-chou section of the line. Besides continuous improvement of the line itself, the plans call for improvement in the efficiency of operation of trains. In 1950, the Yueh-Han line will attempt to attain an income of 454 billion yuan by transporting 4.5 million tons of freight and 20 million passengers.

WEN-CHING BRIDGE NAME CHANGED -- Hau-ch'iao Jih-pao, 16 Jan 50

Chung-shan, Kwangtung -- An uncompleted bridge, originally to be called the Chung-cheng (51, 5643) Bridge, in honor of Generalissimo Chiang, is now renamed the Wen-cheng (4321, 5643) Bridge. The bridge, which is now being completed, is on the road between Wen-ch'ang-sha (4321, 4484, 6031) and Cheng-fou (5643, 1746) in Chung-shang Hsien, Kwangtung.

USSR ENGINEER AIDS BRIDGE REPAIR -- Hua-ch'iao Jih-pao, 17 Jan 50

Kuang-chou -- The quick repair of the 240-meter-long bridge of the Yueh-Han Railroad at Ch'u-chiang, completed 26 December 1949, was achieved through the close cooperation of the Chinese engineers and workmen, and particularly because of the outstanding aid of the USSR engineer, Pakulov, who devised a highly effective winch and hoist for handling the bridge members. Much engineering knowledge was learned from this USSR comrade.

FIRST-CLASS SLEEPER ON KUANG-CHOU--SHANG-HAI TRAINS -- Kung-shang Jih-pao, 17 Jan 50

Kuang-chou, 16 January -- Beginning tomorrow. 17 January 1950, first-class sleeping cars, as well as second- and third-class accommodations, will be available on all through trains between Kuang-chou and Shang-hai. First-class coach fare will be 335,300 yuan, plus 229,200 yuan for a lower berth or 172,200 for an upper berth, in a sleeping car.

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